

## ATTACHMENT ONE

# Memorandum

**Date:** 2/14/1  
**To:** Leon Manuel, Chairman of M.A.G. Building Codes Committee  
**From:** Ben Cox, Chairman of M.A.G. Building Inspector/Plans Reviewer Forum  
**Subject:** Recommendation to the M.A.G. Building Codes Committee for the uniform application roof access through hatches/scuttle openings per 1997 UMC Section 307.5 2. 1.5

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The Building Inspector/Plan Review Forum recommends the MAG Building Codes Committee consider this a written interpretation of the specified code sections. Whereas the requirements of the 1997 UMC Section 307.5 2. 1.5 states, "have side railings which extend at least 30 inches above the scuttle opening or coping to the step off". The members of the forum agree that the use of **one** ladder extension device be accepted as meeting the intent of the code.

### **Analysis of discussion and recommendation**

The requirement for the extension of railings through the access opening is not practical and it was felt that the intent of the code was to provide an individual with the ability to safely ascend or descend the ladder to the service level. The field inspectors discussed the need to have a railing or equivalent accommodation to provide a safe method to access the ladder at the scuttle opening while descending a service level. The consensus was that the use of permanently installed railings on the roof at the opening or the use of the single ladder extension device was acceptable